

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1859.

By Authority.

It has pleased His Majesty the King to appoint Saturday, the 31st of December inst., as a day of Public Thanksgiving to Almighty God, for the many mercies bestowed upon this people; and all His loving subjects are hereby recommended to the due and proper observance of the same.

M. KEKUNAOA,

His Majesty's Chamberlain.

CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE, 17th Dec., 1859.

In a rather too elaborate leader on Thursday last, the *Advertiser* represents itself, and wishes the public to believe that it is a much injured person. It is in a very sad plight, if we can believe what it says of itself—a thing not always safe to do when facts and figures are in question. And the cause of its *pilikia* is—well, flattery is pleasant even from an enemy, and a rose is sweet in spite of the thorn—the cause is the alleged competition of the *Polynesian*.

Without stopping to comment upon the tone and language with which our contemporary lubricates its own mental organism, and meritoriously attempts to wipe the pebbles of other people, we would merely call its attention to certain facts, which appear either to have been unknown, or not well understood by itself.

When the *Advertiser* accuses us of unfairness, injustice, want of manliness, &c., &c., did it bear in mind our leading article on the 18th December, last year, subject—Government Press, in which we recommended that "the Government Press be disposed of," because we then believed, as we do still believe, that the interests of the Government and the country would be better subserved without, than with, an investment in types and a typographical staff? We know, and the *Advertiser* knew, that article was approved, and its opinions shared, by the Legislature who passed the Act which it now quotes. Was it too much for our contemporary's sense of justice to acknowledge this fact and give us credit for our unselfishness in advocating a measure that would probably have taken the bread out of our mouths, and possibly put it in the already filled pockets of the *Advertiser*? for up to that time its periodical growl—for appearances sake—had never been predicated upon any actual loss incurred to itself from the competition, but simply upon grounds of public economy or, perhaps, sub rosa, that ancient maxim that "more wants more."

We have not been honored by any special explanations from H. R. H. the Minister of the Interior, upon the reasons why "the first step has (not) been taken" to dispose of the Government Press; but at the risk of having our individual opinion construed into an official pronouncement, and of returning the *Advertiser's* delicate flattery with rather unpleasant truth, we will attempt to answer why "the first step has not been taken." The answer is brief: there was nothing to stop; and with all the disadvantages of the Government Press, as it is, yet it is to be presumed that by this time the Government has learnt "not to throw away dirty water, until it can get clean."

In a small community, like this, where every body knows every other body's business far better than his own, it does not require *pro forma* proclamations or lengthy advertisements to ascertain who are capable, competent and willing to either lease or buy the Government Press, its apparatus and fixtures. And we confess that for the present, we know of no one uniting these qualifications. When such a one arises or arrives in this community, he will soon be known, and then, and then only, can "the first step be taken" to carry the Act of the Legislature into execution.

But, looking at the subject from another point of view, were the *Polynesian* office sold,—and, if sold to the proprietor of the *Advertiser*, crippled as a whole, or sent out of the country to ensure its own coveted monopoly of printing—we fully believe that six months would hardly elapse, certainly not a year, before another press and journal would start in opposition to the *Advertiser*. Yet, as the Government, with all its faults—inherited and inherent—is still looked up to and respected as the political exponent of liberal ideas and of industrial, agricultural and commercial progress, it is easy to be seen how it may become very much embarrassed by being at the mercy, as it were, (for even six months,) of a political journal whose role of action seems to be to oppose the measures of the Government, malign its motives and traduce its officers, and whose bigotry and illiberality display a strong relationship to those antique ideas which ruled the country in former days.

Under these circumstances, were we Minister of the Interior, Cabinet Council, Privy Council or Legislature, we should consider it a moral duty to "look before we leaped," however much we may concur in the principle that the Government should, at the earliest practicable moment, retire from every position where it comes in active competition with private enterprise, and however annoying such delay might prove to any individual.

We will now proceed to some other facts of which the *Advertiser* seems rather oblivious.

We surely need not tell the *Advertiser* that "what is worth doing at all, is worth doing well." If it is an object for the Government to keep a press, and for its director to edit a journal, it is also worth their while to keep that Press and that Journal at the top of the profession to which they belong. There is not a reader of the *Advertiser* but remembers the Animadab satisfaction, the patronizing smile with which for some years past it cracked its jokes upon the "terrific express" and the "slow coach" of the *Polynesian*. And its readers were then regaled with serio-comic lucubrations upon the uselessness of such a journal, which never was on hand when it was wanted, and whose press was a mere "in the race for jobs." But there has come a change over the spirit of the *Advertiser's* dream, and now that we have obtained the very objections it then made, that we have enlarged and perfected the availability of the office, that we have rendered the *Polynesian* a match (our friends say, an over-match) for the *Advertiser* in each and every department which makes a newspaper valuable—now "the fat is in the fire," and instead of commending us for our improvement,

and for the zeal and faithfulness with which we have labored to make both the office and the journal what they should be, and what the country has a right to expect from the appropriations it makes for them, and to accommodate that great number of residents and transients whose prejudices, predilections or interests lead them rather (as a matter of choice,) to our doors than to the opposition shop; and instead of appreciating our public spirit and personal unselfishness in increasing our own labor, anxiety and responsibility without any increase whatever in our salary,—instead of any of these, it abuses us like a pickpocket, and accuses us of "meanness," "dishonourable conduct" and of breaking the heart of one of the profession, when it knew, or should have known before it spoke, that it was as far from the truth as ever—that every other man who reads it, that the very stones in the street would rise in judgment and rebuke it for disturbing the dead, whom we personally assisted when fortune frowned upon him and the Pharisees "passed by on the other side," and who, so far from being "discouraged, disheartened," &c., at our maintaining our job office, actually leased that very same job office during the latter part of his life, and enjoyed the emoluments thereof.

We are really ashamed of our cotemporary! Ashamed of its incoherence, its indelicacy and its vituperation.

What it says about our "braving away its master workman," with offers of higher wages, is about on a par with all the other facts in which it has contrived to envelop a proposition, which is undoubtedly correct in the abstract, though not perhaps applicable at the precise moment or in the particular manner which the *Advertiser* could desire. We believe that the change of office by the foreman in question was effected without any breach of the first business obligation by him or by us, and the motive was greater congeniality and not higher wages. We believe that so far from being distressed or even inconvenienced, the *Advertiser* had some three months' notice of the change.

It sounds strange in our ears to hear the *Advertiser* complain of breaches of the tenth commandment. There is a slight forgetfulness somewhere that we do not choose to unravel; and it is possible that some people, in cases of emergency or of personal application, have a way of suspending any article of the decalogue by a two-thirds vote, after an Irish fashion.

What our cotemporary says about "extra efforts to withdraw (its) customary job-work" is another of those two-edged swords in argument, of which it knows not the use. Unconscious of any "extra efforts" or unfair means to withdraw its customers, we confess that we have been not a little gratified by the preference which the public has evinced in our behalf during this season. And as the *Advertiser* is unable or unwilling to perceive the causes of this preference which makes it eat its own heart with envy, we would modestly suggest that it may be owing to the more liberal, less bigoted or factional spirit pervading our journal; or it may be that a contrary course has alienated many of the *Advertiser's* former customers; in short, it may be its own fault altogether, could its vanity only descend to conceive of such a thing.

However we may regret, in a friendly way, that the *Advertiser* has not been able to retain its former popularity, still we cannot regret the increasing favors bestowed upon our journal and job-office. We are glad, however, of this opportunity to disabuse the mind of our cotemporary of the impression that the Government is determined to maintain its Press at any cost, solely and expressly to ruin private enterprise or to annoy the *Advertiser*. And we again reiterate that we believe that the Minister of the Interior not only acknowledges the principle involved, but would be very willing to dispose of the Government Press "whenever in his discretion he shall deem it best for the public interest."

Now, when the *Advertiser* next writes on this subject, it will do us a favor and perform a duty to the public (an indispensable condition of any lasting popularity) by keeping itself within such facts as it knows and can prove to be true, and not to invoke the spirits of the dead unless it is prepared for the answer they may make.

"Cedant Armis Toga."
The beautiful specimen of ordnance which has been lying on the esplanade free to the examination of the passer by, since the destruction of the old fort, has been finally removed from its resting place, and shipped on board the *Bowditch*, which vessel is bound for the United States. It has been purchased by Messrs. C. A. Williams & Co. The weight of this piece of metal, as shown by our friend Ward's scales, (which by the way would remind us of a Nuunau Valley Cemetery Lot if the fence around them was only whitewashed,) was 5,750 lbs., and at the round little price of 16 cents per lb. realizes for Government the nice sum of \$920. It will undoubtedly prove a good remittance for its purchasers, as Ames, of Springfield is said readily to give 40 cents per lb. for similar metal, and this is reported to contain a goodly quantity of silver. This gun was of the age of the 14th Louis, whose proud motto and cognizance, "Plus ça change, plus ça change," and the blazing sun are stamped with the heraldic emblazonment of the Bourbons, the well known "fleur de lis" upon its surface; the date, A. D. 1687, is upon the breech, together with the name of its founder. Upon the muzzle end the "funny" Frenchman has inscribed the baptismal name of "Le Divertissant," or the plaything, and immediately underneath the motto "Ultima Ratio Regum!" the synonym for war, i. e., the final argument of kings.

This piece, a contemporary of the earlier missionaries, and now about to take a farewell of our shores, arrived here in the year 1822, in the ship *William & John*, Capt. Ebbetts, and was transhipped on board the brig *Pedlar*, then under the command of our respected townsman, Capt. John Meek. It was bought by Kaimokou for King Kamehameha II., and the price paid was 150 piculs small wood, then worth about \$5000 in China. The nearly fatal, yet withal ludicrous accident connected with the attempt to free its vent hole from the instrument with which it was spiked by the French under Admiral de Tromelin, in 1849, are no doubt fresh in the remembrance of many of our citizens. A certain friend of ours informs us that the Government sold the gun for cash, as he knows it was not charged. We were glad to hear of this fact, for owing to its being spiked, the gun could not speak for itself.

Omitted.
We omitted in our last week's issue to acknowledge our obligations to Capt. John Paty of the bark *Francis Palmer*, for files of late papers. Capt. P. will please accept our thanks, and we will endeavor to be less remiss in future.

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PAST WEEK.

Christmas.

Need we say it in words and print it on paper, need we express to our readers and the great outside world promiscuously, how truly, how sincerely, we wish them—as we know that we are wished in return—A MERRY CHRISTMAS! and a good time coming right along!

How we rejuvenate ourselves by the hallowed recollections of Christmas Eve, with its candles and cakes, its rushes on the floor and its morning "Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and good will to man!"

While you and we, however, dear reader, are thankful to God who has blessed us with health and contentment, and permitted the unbroken links of the family chain to unite again round the family hearth for fresh inspirations of tenderness, love and obedience—let us not forget the sorrowful few, the heavy heart; let us remember that the afflicted are the wards of our Father in Heaven; let us succor and console them, if in our power, and let us respect their misfortunes by moderating our joy when their shadows pass the door of our dwellings.

Once again, A Merry Christmas! until New Year's Eve calls us together to compare notes upon the past, and whisper our hopes for the coming year.

"The Man with the Black Bag."

We dropped in at the "Emporium," corner of Merchant and Kaahumanu streets, the other day, and were shown some specimens of goods imported per *Sea Nymph*, by "the man with the black bag," which, in texture of fabric and elegance of style puts everything in the shade that ever before came into the port of Honolulu. To enumerate his different styles and varieties of goods which belong to the ladies' department alone, would be almost an endless task, to say nothing of the boxes, bales and packages adapted to every requirement of our community, and whose choice contents are their only excuse for so often incumbering the street. "Terms quick!—Prices cheap!" is our friend's motto, and we recommend our readers, who have a taste for artistic elegance, as well as the substantial and useful, to give him an early call.

The Circus.

This gallant company of equestrians, voltigeurs and nimble performers continue to play to crowded houses. With the order and good management, and improved condition of the new premises, it is a pleasant resort to spend an evening to see the riding and tumbling and be warned by the clown that "Wedlock is a ticklish thing," etc. A circus is becoming an annual institution in Honolulu, and no doubt a great number of our people would look upon a season without it, as they would on a pudding without the plums—rather heavy on their hands.

Abio the Chinese Assassin.

We learn that the Chinaman, Abio, now in custody and awaiting trial for the murder of the native woman Louika, a few weeks ago, has made a full and detailed confession, by which two other Chinamen, coolies, about town, have been implicated as accomplices before the fact. They were promptly arrested and committed for trial at the next January term. It is an old adage, which seems to hold good in China as well as elsewhere, that "when the thieves fall a quarrelling the farmer gets his corn."

Do unto others, etc.

The *Advertiser* is coming down heavy on the toes of the Post Master General for alleged irregularity in the postal service. Would it not have been some little "manniness," besides courtesy, to have inquired at the Post Office about the missing letters, and given the P. M. an opportunity to investigate the matter before insinuating that his labor was *vox et preterea nihil*, a simple "endeavor" without any good result. Our cotemporary is very ticklish himself, but has apparently little regard for the epidemics of others.

Chas. Wolcott Brooks.

As will be seen in our advertising columns, this gentleman continues in business at San Francisco as a Commission and Shipping Merchant at No. 123, Sansome st. Mr. C. W. Brooks is personally known to many of our Merchants, and has had extensive dealings with the Islands, and the satisfaction given by him to them is a guarantee for the future to all who may favor him with their business. The Market Reports for the Islands, as made up by Mr. Brooks, are replete with commercial information most interesting to our traders.

Rice Culture.

We publish to day a communication from Mr. Holstein, of the Royal Hawaiian Agricultural Society's Garden, upon the culture of this grain, which may prove a fortune to these islands, if fostered and encouraged by those who now are in a position to experiment, not only on a large scale, but on the various methods proposed. It is in that clear, graphic and intelligible style which always characterizes Mr. Holstein's remarks upon everything connected with the agricultural progress of the country, and we not only recommend it with pleasure to our readers, but hope also that not a few of them will give the subject a fair trial.

Go further and Fare Worse.

We are informed by a well known shipmaster who saw Capt. Smith of the whale ship *Fabius*, at San Francisco, that he attributes the dangerous sickness of his crew to the ill effects of his water, taken aboard at Kauai and which he said came from a stream running through a kalo patch. For the future he intends to get his water at Honolulu or Lahaina, if it costs a little more. Capt. Smith complained bitterly of the expenses at San Francisco. The Pilot charged him \$100,—and the Doctor \$300, to go to Suva and visit his ship's crew.

Almanacs for 1860.

We have had laid on our table "the Commercial Register for 1860," prepared and furnished by H. M. Whitney, Esq., of this city. It is a counterpart of the Register for 1859 prepared by the same gentleman. It contains a fund of practical information, not obtained elsewhere, and is for sale at the Counter of the *Advertiser* at rates varying from 25 to 50 cents according to the style.

The "Christian Almanac," an American publication is also for sale at the same place.

Concert of Sacred and Secular Music.

Our readers will notice among our advertisements that on Tuesday evening next, Messrs. Hasselocher and Waldau, the talented Musicians, assisted by the Honolulu Musical Amateur Society, give a Concert of sacred and secular music at the Port Street Church. We anticipate a rare Christmas treat; something that the general public of Honolulu has never had an opportunity to hear since it was a city, and can not fail to appreciate when they hear it.

Thanks.

Messrs. McRuer and Merrill, of San Francisco, will please accept our thanks for news papers received ex Jeannette.

Notice.

The funeral of J. W. P. Kinas, son of the late high Chief W. P. Lelohoku, and the Governor of Hawaii, will take place on Tuesday, the 27th instant, from the residence of his Excellency the Governor of Oahu. All personal friends of the deceased, and officers of His Majesty's Government and the public generally are respectfully invited.

Dishaways.

Mr. Keyte will lecture before the Honolulu Dishaway Association to-night, at the Bethel. The public are invited.

The Fourth Page.

The "Diamond Wedding" and prices current are printed on our fourth page.

Circuit Court.

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT.—December Term, 1859. Associate Justice ROBERTSON and J. RICHARDSON, Esq., Local Circuit Judge, on the Bench. The Court met on Tuesday, the 13th of December. Previous to proceeding to business Judge Robertson, in allusion to the place in which the Court met, observed to the following effect:

GENTLEMEN.—It gives me great pleasure to be able to congratulate the people of Maui upon the erection and completion of what has so long been felt to be a desideratum in the town of Lahaina, namely, a respectable public building for governmental purposes. While, in the construction of this spacious building, ample provision has been made for the necessary accommodation of the executive branch of the public service, the wants of the Judiciary Department have not been overlooked—that Department which, in point of importance, can never be regarded as second to any other, in a civilized country; for, upon the faithful administration of the law, guarding and enforcing the rights of all classes, and of every individual, must ever depend, in a great measure, the general well-being and prosperity of the entire community. It is our privilege, this morning, to inaugurate this commodious Hall of Justice, which has been built and set apart for the special use and accommodation of the Circuit Court of the Island of Maui, as it shall meet, from time to time, for the transaction of business. Let us hope that so long as this substantial edifice shall continue to stand upon its solid foundation, so long shall the general principles of justice and the laws of the land continue to be administered here with skill, with fairness, and with impartiality.

REX vs. Akani: Perjury. Prisoner pleaded guilty and prayed the mercy of the Court. Sentenced to one year's imprisonment at hard labor.

REX vs. Hina (female): Polygamy. Prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment at hard labor and a fine of \$5.

REX vs. Kahue: Perjury again. A *nol. pros.* entered on motion of the District Attorney.

REX vs. Moss Puka: Perjury. A *nol. pros.* entered on motion of the District Attorney, and the same on a second count.

REX vs. Kanikanihi: Sodomy. Verdict of not guilty.

NEEDHAM vs. NEEDHAM: Petition for Decree of Divorce on the ground of Adultery. Continued over from last term. On the hearing of the case the Decree was granted.

Superior Court at Chambers.

Dacht vs. Dacht: Petition for Divorce on the ground of adultery. On the hearing of the case the Decree was granted.

The District Attorney appeared for the Crown. Mr. Kauwahi defended the prisoners. In the divorce cases Mr. Farwell appeared for the complainants.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE POLYNESIAN.

SIR: The difficulty in raising rice mainly exists in this, that there is in fact no difficulty at all; or in other words, persons unacquainted with the process of raising rice, imagine that there must necessarily exist some secret principle of management, which, if they do not exist, I believe, of every grain of other product grown, rice requires not only the least labor, but is raised by the most simple process.

In regard to soil I would say, that any and all kind of land, as long as it contains at least six inches of mud, and the deeper the mud the better, is fit to yield rice. Should the soil be such as is either gravelly or sandy, it is better to grow rice in kalo land where the red soil, so well known on our islands, predominates. In the one place rice produced from 40 to 60 ears, while on the other the stalks were slender, the ears short and not more than 6 or 8 to the root. The running water, which comes from a long distance, the numerous little streams which rush down our mountain valleys, and are enlarged by heavy rains and enriched by the debris of igneous rocks, rotten wood and decayed leaves, are by far preferable to stagnant pools, as they bring to the rice-lands a constant supply of valuable manures, amongst which silica is the most valuable to rice, as no other grain requires as much. Of the preparation of rice-land it is unnecessary to say much more, than that the principal object of the planter should be to have his rice patch perfectly level, so that if the water is let on, one inch will nearly cover the surface. This is at first a somewhat difficult job, but when once the level is obtained, it will answer for years and years of after culture. The kalo patches in this country are such perfect rice fields that there is no need to say anything about embankments and the required ditches.

In regard to cultivation, I would say that I have tried this year four different methods. 1. I have drilled the seed in January. It will answer for years and years of after culture. 2. I have drilled the seed with the seed-sower upon the wet mud. 3. I have sown the seed broadcast on the wet mud; and 4. I have pursued the Chinese method and transplanted the rice from a seed bed. For method one I plowed the ground first, harrowed well, made light furrows with the drill of the hoe, and sowed the seed apart—as near as a man can go backwards without treading on the furrow—and dropped the seed with the seed-sower and covered lightly with a hoe or rake, and let the water on just enough to cover the ground.

For method two, I stirred the mud with hoe and iron rakes to the consistency of poi, just stiff enough to withstand the wheels of the seed-sower so much as to turn them, and drilled the seed upon the ground, letting the water on the uncovered seed.

For method three, I stirred the mud to the consistency of the poi, and sowed the seed broadcast. I would here remark, that persons are apt to sow too thick, which will injure the yield. The distance at which the plants should stand apart from each other, should be at least 7 to 8 inches, and if they should be 12 or 16 inches apart, the plant will tiller so much that ear will hang on ear. By all means avoid thick sowing. Before the seed is let on, it should be immersed in water for the double benefit, first, the water floats all empty and worthless grain, and second, the grain when previously soaked and then rolled in ashes to make it freely slip through the fingers of the sower, will sink immediately in the water or on the mud, while dry it would float on the surface and be lost. Rice can be transplanted into it in tight barrel—*id est*, begins to form the ear-stem, and it is an easy matter to pull the plants where they are too thick, and transfer them to places where too thin.

For method four, I sowed broadcast a few handfuls on the slick mud in the corner of a kalo patch, and when from 6 to 10 inches high, transplanted into the soft mud of a rice field, one plant at a place, in rows 10 or 12 inches apart and from 8 to 8 apart in the row. Now, in regard to the four different modes I have pursued, I would observe that of all the broadcast sowing is preferable where much land is cultivated, as the cheapest; and the mode of transplanting, for those who only work a small quantity of land and do their own labor (I have mainly reference to the native population), is undoubtedly the most remunerative, because it requires not only less seed, but on account of evenness, or it may be the plants loves transplanting like many vegetables, it yields by far more than any other manner of raising rice—at least such has been my experience.

In regard to bringing the dried kalo patches under culture, I pursued the following method: First, I cut the grass, and when dry laid it over the ground and set it on fire. Then I plowed the ground with the oxen

and turned the furrows from six to seven inches deep, and as broad as I could conveniently cut them evenly and very particularly, one exactly joining the other. Had I possessed a heavy roller I should have rolled them, to press the edges down smooth. I then ran over it with a heavy harrow, to loosen the ground without tearing the soil, turned under, and my land was prepared, with the addition of having the soil turned under for a good mauling. Where the mud was too deep for oxen to work, I followed the manner of the natives in preparing their kalo land. In regard to the watering the rice, different methods are pursued. In Carolina the water is withdrawn when the rice begins to swell, about the fourth or fifth day, and let on again when the rice is three or four inches high. In Piedmont the reverse method is pursued. I have tried both ways, and am convinced that the process of letting the water on and off only produces a crop of weeds, and therefore the water should be let on at once and kept on to the end. At first 1 or 1½ inch will do. Through this the rice will work its way. Although at first when sprouted the sprouts lay flat on the mud, they gradually take an erect position. Afterwards increase the water with the growth of the rice. It saves greatly to strengthen the plant and keep it from swaying when the wind blows; it also prevents weeds from growing, except aquatic plants, among which what the natives call dried rice is prominent. Such weeds are easily pulled out, and one weeding is sufficient for a crop. When the rice begins to ripen and half the ears are quite ripe, let off the water to dry the ground. Cut with a sickle when ripe, and haul carefully, leaving rice sits very loose. Rice ripens unequally. I have harvested, some 112 days after sowing, some four months, and some four and a half months. Rice which was sown in several instances two weeks earlier than that in adjoining kalo land, was reaped later. I do not know how to account for it, except it is the influence of the wind or the different degrees of warmth imparted to the mud. When caterpillars or cutworms visit the rice, which they are likely to do when the plant is tender, one hour's flooding or two, and suddenly opening the tailgate will sweep them off. Horses and cattle never disturb rice, except the grain is ripe, when grain-fed horses are fond of the ear.

The threshing may be performed by the old fashioned flail, when a fit floor or large sail is at hand. I have threshed all my rice in a box. A large packing box, such as is used for shipping saddles, is very fit. Nail four posts in the corners, and fasten round it some cloth or matting, leaving open one side only. In South Carolina stamping mills are used. The grain is whirled by a process of polishing—how, I don't know. If once a quantity of rice is raised on these islands, it may be supposed that a mill also will find a place here. You ask the meaning of half and whole crop. I have put down a half crop at two thousand pounds per acre, and a whole crop at four thousand. That the latter can be raised I am certain, because I have had places in my field where the yield to the square yard was three-quarters of a pound to a pound and over; but I believe there are at present very few kalo lands which would yield a whole crop, and this will be the case with all kalo lands very lucky or lucky in South Carolina excepted—as long as they are not completely sheltered from the wind. Wind is the only drawback and the only hindrance to prevent each acre of kalo land from yielding its four thousand pounds of rice and over. When the rice is in bloom a fine white flower, the pollen, hangs on each grain. The wind blows this away, and the grain is blasted. Some rice is advanced by others; the grain when ripe sits loose on the stalk, a heavy blast scours the field, and the grain falls in the mud. Wind is the principal enemy to rice culture, and to shelter your rice field against this enemy should be the unceasing care of the planter. Plant any thing, sugar cane, willow, banana, high and low trees, till the field is so guarded that not a breath of air can stir a palm, and a whole crop is sure to be the reward.

I have set down the average cost of a crop of rice at \$5 per acre. In this estimate I certainly did not include the first cost of clearing a wild kalo patch, but had reference to such as are either cleared or cleared of raising kalo, or prepared. Three good hands and threshing could be performed by seven hands in another day's work. Where the rice is transplanted, there would be a heavier outlay incurred; but, as above observed, I think it cheaper to sow rice broadcast than much land is under rice culture. The kanaunas have made me the most difficulty. When well cleaned at the start, they can easily be kept clean with the hoe, and I would advise those who prepare rice land to once clean these kanaunas thoroughly; it will save much labor with regard to the grain itself. I would remark that I believe that rice will adapt itself to the climate. The rice which I planted last year was imported China rice, a very small grain; and I find a marked difference in the product of this year, as the grain is larger and fuller, and I would not be surprised to find it still better in another crop. The hulled rice is by far darker than the original grain. This may be due to the fact, or because it is very fresh and badly hulled, or perhaps on account of its composition. South Carolina rice contains, according to Bousingault, 89.5 of starch and only 3.8 of gluten, albumen, etc. Perhaps the quantity of gluten in our rice is larger and influences the color. Should the latter be the case, it would make the rice so much more valuable. There is no doubt that it is a very palatable article. In regard to the time of planting, I would remark that I have not yet arrived at a definite result. I have planted in March, in June, July and August, and all has done well so far. I shall try next in January. I would also mention, that mice, rats and wild pigeons are destructive to rice, and it would be well to let the water off too soon, or arrange the ditches so that the water can be let on or off, whenever required.

Finally, I would say that I have 15000 pounds of good seed on hand, and for sale, at a moderate price. I have rice which, although somewhat imperfectly hulled, is very palatable, and offered for sale in quantities to suit those who are desirous of tasting the first sample of Sandwich Island rice. So please send your orders, which will be promptly and very cheerfully attended to by your humble servant.

P. S. Rice after having been cut begins to grow again. This is worthless; every crop must be sown afresh.

First Semi-Annual Statement by the Treasurer of the Queen's Hospital.

To H. R. H. Prince L. Kamehameha, Minister of the Interior, etc., etc.

SIR:—In accordance with Article 2 of the Charter of the Queen's Hospital, granted 20th June, 1859, I beg to present the following semi-annual statement of the financial transactions and condition of the Corporation.

RECEIPTS UP TO THIS DATE, Dec. 20th, 1859.

From Receipt by Honolulu Amateur Musical Society, \$218 75
From subscribers, 8,808 52
Benefit given by Prof. Anderson, 309 25
\$9,336 52

DISBURSEMENTS, etc.

Paid rent of temporary Hospital to Nov. 1st, \$240 00
Paid salary of Physician, to Nov. 1st, 391 00
Paid wages of Steward and Servants to Dec. 1st, 388 00
Paid for furniture, provisions, etc., to Dec. 1st, 694 57
Paid for books, stationery, printing, etc., to Dec. 1st, 104 62
Loaned Nov. 10th on note and mortgage for 10 m. on interest, 6,000 00
Cash on hand, 1,518 33
\$9,336 52

ASSETS DEC. 20th.

Cash on hand, \$1,518 33
Note, for money loaned, 6,000 00
Subscriptions due, 4,850 00
\$12,368 33

LIABILITIES.

Due for rent to date, \$100 00
Amounts wages, etc., for 1st inst. to date, estimated, 175 00
Amount salary of Physician from Nov. 1st to date, 208 33
\$483 33

Balance, \$11,885 00

CHAS. R. BISHOP, Treasurer.

Honolulu, Dec. 20th, 1859.

LATEST FOREIGN DATES.

Hongkong, Sept 9 Panama, Nov 14
Liverpool, Oct 22 Paris, Oct 22
San Francisco, Aug 17 St. Louis, Nov 7
Nagasaki, Sept 8 St. Louis, Nov 7
New Orleans, Aug 22 Tahiti, Sept 3
New York, Nov 7 Victoria, V. I., Nov 2

COMMERCIAL.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1859.

The past week's trade has been on a par with that which preceded it. The *Black Sea* has cleared at the Custom House with a cargo valued at \$11,813 70, and has a freight list rising \$10,000, which will pay the charterers, as they were understood to be chartered at a rate very favorable for them. The *Bowditch* sailed this morning for McKean's Island to hunt guano. The *Jeannette* arrived to-day from San Francisco, after a long passage of 30 days. She is intended as an island trader. She has a small cargo of about 18 to